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Title: Need to set up Research and Development Centres and colleges in the field of agriculture, horticulture, fisheries and rubber in Kanyakumari district of Tamil Nadu.

SHRIMATI J. HELEN DAVIDSON (KANYAKUMARI): Kanyakumari district has 98% literacy rate compared to other districts in Tamil Nadu. Keeping in view the high literacy rate, Kanyakumari district has to be given more importance in the development of educational sector and other related facilities. Kanyakumari district depends on agriculture from where its major revenue is being generated. There are a total of 808 schools and 178 colleges in Kanyakumari district.

I would like to draw the attention towards the fact that there is no Research and Development Centre in Kanyakumari. For the development of agriculture, horticulture and fisheries, establishment of Research and Development Centre along with the relevant colleges will boost the educational sector very much. To safeguard the interests of population depending on the manufacturing and making of rubber, more and more avenues are required. Indian rubber, especially from Kanyakumari is having more demand in international market because of its good standard and quality. In order to sustain the quality and increase in production of rubber, a Research Education Centre is very much essential. To attract more students and to render qualitative education, establishment of Research and Development Centres alongwith colleges in the relevant fields are much needed.

Hence, I urge upon the Government to establish Research and Development Centres in the relevant fields in Kanyakumari District for the larger interest of the people.